

The Rush County Council met in regular session on Wednesday, February 9, 2012 at 8:00 a.m. with Gerald Mohr, Chairman, Warren Norris, Janet Kile, Bruce Levi, Kevin Spilman Jerry Kent, Norman Winkler, Jodi Harr, Deputy Auditor and Leigh Morning, County Attorney in attendance. Deborah Adams, Auditor was at another meeting.

Chairman, Gerald Mohr called the meeting to order.

Minutes of the January 11, 2012 were approved as presented on a motion by Bruce Levi, seconded by Warren Norris. Motion carried.

### **SURVEYOR**

Marvin Rees appeared before the Council asking for an additional appropriation in the Riverboat Revenue Sharing Fund (#150) pay the Wycoff-Young loan. This was discussed at the January 2012 meeting. A motion was made by Warren Norris to approve the additional appropriation in the amount of \$54,907.07. Kevin Spilman seconded. Motion carried.

Rees presented the council with a copy of the Drainage Board Resolution 2012-7 authorizing loans for reconstruction of the James Cassidy Drain. This is a five (5) year loan in the amount of \$9,913.08. Jerry Kent made a motion to proceed with the loan. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

Rees updated the council on the meeting held between himself, county auditor, county treasurer, Commissioner Marvin Cole, Councilman Bruce Levi, Councilman Warren Norris and the county attorney. The group decided to research getting a line of credit for drain improvements. It was suggested that each drain have their own fund but this would create problems with the new chart of accounts being established with the state board of accounts.

The council was presented with a copy of IC 36-9-27-73, IC 36-9-27-44, and IC 36-9-27-45. Rees pointed out that by these codes he feels like the drain improvement fund would be treated like a bank. He has been in contact with the state board of accounts and they have yet to tell him he is doing anything wrong.

### **DRAINAGE BOARD**

Marvin Rees asked the council members if they had received the letter from the drainage board requesting that a council member start attending the drainage board meetings. None of the council members had received this letter. The drainage board feels that with the current funding issues it would be in the best interest of the county to have a county council member attending the drainage board meetings. Warren Norris and Bruce Levi will take care of making sure one of them attend the meetings. Commissioner Tom Barnes suggested that in the 2013 budget the council consider paying the council member just as the other drainage board members are paid to attend the meetings.

## **HEALTH**

Dr. Dorothy Boersma, Rush County Health Officer and Terri Nigh appeared before the council requesting an additional appropriation in the amount of \$10,000.00 in fund #188 Medical Reserve Core Grant. This grant was received in 2007 for expenses related to establishing a data base of trained volunteers available in case of emergency. It can also be used to train the volunteers. Jerry Kent made the motion to advertise the additional appropriation to be considered at the March council meeting. Kevin Spilman seconded. Motion carried.

Dr. Boersma also requested a transfer of funds in the Health Maintenance Tobacco Fund. She is requesting \$20,000.00 be transferred from 107-1000-2-4 supplies to 107-1000-3-2 contractual services. The payments will be made \$5,000.00 quarterly. Warren Norris made the motion to allow the transfer. Bruce Levin seconded. Motion carried.

## **AREA PLAN COMMISSION**

Tom Barnes, representing the County Commissioners and the APC Board informed the council that due to current medical issues of current Area Plan Director, William Todd, the APC Board and the County Commissioners are requesting an Area Plan Assistant Director. They would like to keep Mr. Todd as Director in order to train the new Director. He presented a spread sheet with the cost of salary, PERF, FICA and possible health insurance rates. They estimate a hire date around the beginning of March. Current secretary to the APC Director, Diana Todd, would like to retain her job. The APC and County Commissioners are in support of this. Jerry Kent asked if there is any money elsewhere in the current APC budget to cover some of the additional expenses. Bruce Levi clarified that the assistant director would be a temporary position. Kent also asked if someone had researched combining the current duties of the APC Director with any other office in the courthouse. Barnes stated that the APC board and the County Commissioners were in favor of keeping the position as is now. A motion was made by Jerry Kent to advertise an additional appropriation in the area plan budget to be considered at the March council meeting. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

## **COURTHOUSE**

Commissioner Tom Barnes updated the council on several maintenance issues at the courthouse.

- The workman's comp and liability insurance audit/walk through was done at the courthouse, jail and highway department on Tuesday, February 7. The commissioners decided to retain Schroeder Insurance as the counties agent but did switch carriers from Downey Insurance to Bliss McKnight. They feel the county has more reliable coverage with Bliss McKnight. Barnes noted that all county offices entering contract with contractors need to make sure the contractor has liability insurance in place. Downey will still be responsible for the lawsuit regarding the Park Restaurant. Kent asked if there was a savings in premiums by switching carriers. Barnes does not have the answer to that at this time. The workman's comp premium will go up some.
- Custer Electric has completed the installation of the generator at the jail. They are working on installing the old jail generator at the courthouse.

- It was originally thought the new panic buttons being installed in courthouse offices would have to be paid out of each individual department budget. The commissioners have found money in the courthouse budget to cover this expense.
- Wellman Brothers has been contracted to do the roof repairs that need to be completed now. The estimated cost is \$4,000 to \$5,000. The commissioners and Wellman Brothers are formulating a comprehensive roof maintenance plan. Tiles are starting to crack so the plan would divide the roof into sections to be maintenance at certain times.
- The #1 boiler in the heating system is leaking. It is believed that it is the boiler tubes that need replaced. Turnkey is to address the commissioners at their February 13 meeting with a plan for repairs. Barnes believes it may be \$10,000 to \$15,000 for the repairs. Mohr suggested that Barnes contact Mark VanNatta in the maintenance department at the Rush County Schools for any advice he may have regarding the boiler system. It was also noted that Homeland Security will have to inspect the boiler system once repairs are made.

### **EMS CONTRACTS**

Commissioner Barnes informed the council that all of the EMS contracts have been signed for 2012. Verlin Custer noted that Raleigh's had not been signed yet. The Raleigh Fire Department will meet tonight to vote on the contract. There was still a question on the contract stating the patient must be transported to Rush Memorial Hospital. Barnes referred Custer to 2.4 of the contract. It states "For emergency calls, Provider shall transport the patient to Rush Memorial Hospital *unless reasonable extenuating circumstances exist*, such as another medical facility is closer." Barnes stated this is a broad statement that could include several things. The EMS provider would use their judgment as to where to transport the patient.

Barnes suggested to the council they start looking now at the funding for EMS services for the 2013 budgets. He noted the area with the most runs is getting the least amount of money.

### **SOLID WASTE DISTRICT**

Carole Yeend, Solid Waste Director, noted the deed for the White Felt property has been transferred to the Solid Waste District. Her budget for 2012 will be used to clean up the property. She also was glad to say that Senate Bill 210 was voted down.

### **RUSHVILLE CITY**

Councilman Mohr welcomed City Councilman Craig Smith to the meeting. He looks forward to working with the City Council.

### **SHERIFF**

Jeff Sherwood, Sheriff, reported forty-six (46) inmates are currently incarcerated in the Rush County jail. He noted the court system is working hard to move the inmates through the system. Sherwood reported that the 2012 Dodge Charger recently purchased is on the road.

Sherwood updated the jail maintenance projects. The generator installation is completed. Windows and door have been replaced in the upstairs of the jail. The can see an improvement on the heating.

The merit board will meet at 6:00 p.m. on March 7, 2012.

Sherwood informed the council of a bill currently being considered to allow county councils to increase the charge for wireless E911. Verlin Custer noted that he believes this bill will also require that there be one answering point for E911 calls in the county. He asked that the council follow this bill and contact their legislators if necessary.

Sherwood requested a transfer in the jail budget to buy computers. He was not aware the computers had to be paid for out of a line four in the budget. Jerry Kent made the motion to transfer \$14,609.50 from 1-14-3-15 computers to 1-14-4-1 furniture/equipment. Kevin Spilman seconded. Motion carried.

Sherwood requested an additional appropriation of \$9,722.39 in the K-9 Contribution Fund #224. Warren Norris made the motion to approve the additional appropriation. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

## **SUPERIOR COURT**

Judge Brian Hill requested a transfer from 1-18-3-14 grand jury to 1-18-1-2 reporter salary. Kevin Spilman made the motion to approve. Jerry Kent seconded. Motion carried.

He also requested a transfer from 1-18-3-14 grand jury to 1-18-1-3 administrator salary. Janet Kile made the motion to approve the transfer. Bruce Levi seconded. Motion carried.

These transfers were needed due to 1782 budget notice changes.

## **E.C.D.C.**

Jim Finan, E.C.D.C. Director, presented the council with an invitation to participate in the Strategic Planning Initiative to be held 2/22/12 and 2/23/12. He is encouraging all city and county elected officials to participate. The last strategic plan was prepared in 2007 and it is time to update it. Finan provided the council with several updates:

- Cherry Street
- AG Roundtable
- North Industrial Park
- E.I.D.D. – Due to embezzlement charges, the current staff is being replaced. Members of E.I.D.D. are working with E.D.A. to determine if the group is financially able to move forward. There are options for Rush County to join other groups if need be. E.D.A. wants to keep the current E.I.D.D. in place.

## **REASSESSMENT**

Mary Ann Bridges, Assessor, received approval on a motion by Warren Norris to

receive an additional appropriation to the old Reassessment Fund # 99 for \$9,722.39 of unused reassessment monies in Reassessment Fund #99. Jerry Kent seconded the motion. Motion carried.

Due to information received on the counties 1782 notice from the DLGF, a cut must be made to the new Reassessment Fund # 6 in the amount of \$77,041.00. A motion was made by Jerry Kent to cut this budget in the amount of \$77,041.00 and for the auditor and assessor to bring to the March meeting a list of where the cuts will come from. Kevin Spilman seconded. Motion carried with Norman Winkler voting nay. The paper work will be signed at the March meeting.

### **GENERAL FUND**

The 1782 notice from the DLGF states that \$86,000 needs to be cut from the general fund. Janet Kile made a motion to advertise for an additional appropriation in the amount of \$86,000.00 to the county general fund with the condition that final recommendation for cuts to come at the March meeting. Kile, Kevin Spilman and Auditor Deborah Adams will meet prior to the March meeting to go over possible cuts. Jerry Kent seconded. Motion carried.

### **RALEIGH FIRE DEPARTMENT**

Verlin Custer presented the Raleigh Fire Department Run Report for 2011. He reviewed the information of the report and ask that the council not cut their budget for 2013.

### **AUDITOR**

Deborah Adams, Auditor, was not in attendance but did send a request asking to change the date of the March council meeting. After discussion, the meeting will be changed to Tuesday, March 13, 2012.

### **NORMAN WINKLER**

Chairman Gerald Mohr presented Councilman Norman Winkler with a token of appreciation from council members, the sheriff, auditor, and county attorney for his service as Chairman of the County Council.

Motion to adjourn was initiated by Warren Norris. Kevin Spilman seconded the motion, motion carried.

<u>/s/Gerald Mohr</u>	<u>/s/Warren Norris</u>	<u>/s/Norman Winkler</u>
Gerald Mohr, Chairman	Warren Norris	Norman Winkler

<u>/s/Janet Kile</u>	<u>/s/Bruce Levi</u>	<u>/s/Kevin Spilman</u>
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Janet Kile

Bruce Levi

Kevin Spilman

/s/Jerry Kent

Jerry Kent

ATTEST:

/s/Deborah C. Adams

Deborah C. Adams, Auditor